(b) if so, to what extent the proposed Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology would help in getting the students with space background; and

(c) by when the institute is going to start its operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)/Department of Space (DOS) requires high quality Scientists/Engineers for its pursuit of excellence in Space Science, Technology & Applications. With increasing opportunities for more lucrative jobs outside, the participation of bright young minds from premier and leading academic institutions in the Indian Space Programme has declined. In spite of continued improvements in recruitment and outreach efforts, ISRO is not able to get the required number of Scientists/Engineers during the last few years.

(b) It is estimated that about 150 graduates from the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST) would be absorbed into ISRO/DOS annually. This will significantly improve the situation.

(c) The IIST has already become operational from the academic year 2007-08.

Delhi rent control Act, 1995

39. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status with regard to the implementation of the Delhi Rent Control Act, 1995;

(b) the steps taken by Government during the preceding two years in the direction;

(c) Government's viewpoint on the implementation or otherwise on this legislation; and

(d) the manner in which Government propose to balance the interest of both the landlord and tenant at least in the case of new tenancies in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (d) Immediately after The Delhi Rent Act, 1995 was enacted on 23.8.1995 there were representations against some of the provisions of the said Act by a section of tenants. The matter was examined and it was decided to bring the Act into force after effecting amendments to some of its provisions.

The Delhi Rent (Amendment) Bill, 1997 was accordingly introduced in Rajya Sabha in July, 1997. The Bill could not be debated till the dissolution of the 13th Lok Sabha. After formation of 14th Lok Sabha, the bill is required to be considered by the Government afresh and steps have been initiated in that direction.

It is expected that after the Delhi Rent (Amendment) Bill is passed and brought into force, the observed deficiencies in The Delhi Rent Act, 1995 would be removed since provisions have been made in the Bill to balance the interest of both the landlord and tenant.

Dogra Committee recommendations

40. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 3177 given in the Rajya Sabha on 3rd May, 2007 and state:

(a) the progress of action on the report of Dogra Committee;